Export and import by State Trading Corporation

†972. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Trading Corporation is carrying out exports and imports;

(b) the value of the export and import carried out during 2003-04, 2004-05 and first quarter of 2005-06;

(c) the percentage, above value constitutes of the total values of export and import carried out from country during each of the above period; and

(d) the role of above organization in foreign trade after adoption of liberalization policy in respect of export and import prior to a decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The export and import turnover of State Trading Corporation of India Limited (STC) during 2003-04, 2004-05, first quarter of 2005-06 and percentage share in country's export and import during these periods are as under:

	STC Turnover (Rs. Crore)		Share in Country's Trade(%)	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
2003-04 (Actuals)	1192	6978	0.41	1.94
2004-05 (Prov.)	610	8422	0.17	1.77
2005-06 (Apr-Jun'05) (Prov.)	202	1679	0.22	1.19

(d) STC was mainly handling export and import of a large number of canalized items prior to liberalization of trade policies. After liberalization,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the Corporation has been laying greater emphasis on developing non-canalized business of both exports and imports, making best use of its strengths such as finances, marketing skills and countrywide infrastructure. It has diversified into many new areas and also expanded operations in the areas earlier handled. In the liberalized environment, STC continues to play an important role as a trading arm of the Government, for bringing market equilibrium in terms of price correction, meeting shortages of mass consumption items and export of surplus commodities; the Corporation has been playing an important role in the implementation of inter Government treaties of trade, besides acting as a nodal agency to monitor and implement counter trade commitments/off-set obligations.

Terminal at Wagha border to facilitate trade

†973. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is setting up a terminal at Wagha border in order to facilitate trade with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what way India will benefit by this terminal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) There is already a Land Customs Station (LCS) at Attari Road (Wagha Border) handling imports of dry/fresh fruits from Afghanistan *via* Pakistan. The same LCS can handle the trade with Pakistan.

(c) The trade with Pakistan through this station will cut short the period which is otherwise taken by other means of export *i.e.* through containers by sea or rail.

Issues to be raised by India in WTO conference at Hong Kong

974. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the preparations made by Government and what are the

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